

Arizona Department of Education Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane M. Douglas

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Superintendent Douglas Announces New Online Parent Gateway

(Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 20, 2016) – As part of her **AZ Kids Can't Afford to Wait! Plan**, Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane Douglas today announced the opening of a new Parent Gateway on the Arizona Department of Education website.

"This is the first step in the transition to open, transparent parental involvement. Parents will have the opportunity to sit down with their children and examine the material that is now available on the website in an easily accessible format," Superintendent Douglas said. "I want to provide parents with information that is easy to find and useful in their daily lives. We will be surveying users to seek additional input so we can constantly improve the site based around their wants and needs."

The Parent Gateway, which provides information about education issues of importance to families, can be accessed at <u>parents.azed.gov</u>. The release marks the first step in the redesign of the Department's web-based resources for parents.

The Superintendent's mission statement "to engage and support Arizona parents" calls for development of comprehensive resources for parents and establishment of a direct contact for assistance at ADE. Also included in the plan is active solicitation and consideration of parental input when developing major changes to education policy.

An online survey for parents is available on the newly redesigned ADE Parent Gateway at www.azed.gov/parents/feedback/.

Superintendent Douglas first announced the **AZ Kids Can't Afford to Wait! Plan** on Oct. 1, 2015. The 156-page plan contains 50 proposals to improve education in Arizona. Proposals range from an immediate call to increase funding for teachers and classrooms to providing enhanced services for rural areas in the state.